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AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS OF MYSORE FOR THE YEARS 1900-01 to 1904-05.

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NOTE.

1. The following brief remarks may be made on the more important variations in the figures embodied in these statistical returns.
2. The increase of 1,000 acres under "Area for which no returns exist" (Column 3, Table A-1) is owing to an Inam village under Government management in the Bangalore District having been restored to the Jodidar during the year.
3. (a) The total net area cropped during the year 1904-05 was less than that of the previous year by about 2,60,000 acres (Table A-2) and was due mainly to deficient rainfall.
(b) The decrease was spread over all the districts except Bangalore. In Chitaldrug which is dependent principally on rainfall, the decrease was so large as 1,14,000 acres. Next to it comes the Kolar District with a decrease of nearly 60,000 acres, most of the serial tanks having breached in the heavy rains of November 1903.
4. There was a decrease of about 70,000 acres in the area irrigated (Table A-2), the bulk of which nearly 60,000 acres was in the Kolar District and the remainder in the Shimoga District.
5. Owing to this large decrease in the area under crop, the area under "Current fallows" (Column 5, Table A-2) and under "Culturable waste" (Column 4, Table A-2) increased by 2,17,000 and 21,000 acres respectively.
6. The decrease in area under crop was distributed mainly as under:—

Rice	...	...	...	65,000 acres.
Gram	...	...	...	...
Ragi	...	...	...	... 51,000 "
Cholum	...	...	...	... 49,700 "
Cambu	...	...	...	... 43,000 "
Til	...	...	...	... 36,800 "
Coffee	...	...	...	... 16,000 "
Other food grains	...	...	...	... 15,000 " and
				... 13,000 "

It may be noted that under rice and gram, all the districts, except Mysore and Hassan, show a decrease; that under ragi all the districts, except Bangalore, Tumkur and Shimoga, exhibit a decrease; under cambu there was decrease in all the four districts in which it is grown and that decrease under coffee occurred entirely in the Hassan District.

7. The second quinquennial Census of agricultural stock taken in September 1904 disclosed a decline under all columns except "Ploughs" and "Carts." The decrease was heaviest among "Sheep" amounting to 4,50,000 or of about 20 per cent and "Goats" amounting to 1,25,000, *i. e.*, about 10 per cent. "Young Stock" also suffered to the extent of 89,000, and among "Cows" and "Bullocks" the decrease was 60,000 and 21,000 respectively. It may, however, be observed that it is not possible to vouchsafe for the accuracy of these figures but they may be assumed to be generally correct. As the year 1904-05 was one of very inadequate rainfall and poor harvest, the sheep and goats must have suffered much and might also have been sold or slaughtered for food. The small reduction of only 21,000 in bulls or about 1½ per cent shows that the loss in the more valuable agricultural stock is not serious and that the raiyats have taken better care of them.

8. The improvement of the breed of cattle and their maintenance in good condition, being a most essential factor in the well-being of the raiyat, should form no unimportant part of the concern of Revenue Officers. Care will be taken to see that the Cattle Diseases Inspector keeps a close watch on the general condition and mortality of cattle in the places visited by him and verifies generally the census figures.

9. The usual explanatory memorandum is appended with a few verbal alterations and omissions.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF STATISTICS AND
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Bangalore, 19th January 1907.

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